

Remarks:

1. This amendment has been made to further amend the amended Claim 9 as amended/filed on: 9/24/2004 to be a Jepson-style format.
2. After this amendment, Allen's prior art (,276) will be avoided because the prior art further requires a "holding means "such as a two-part fastener, or snap fastener, or a press fit structure, to thereby be inferior to this application.
3. Exley's prior art (,137) really has a ring (24) to be snap-locked on a circumferential flange of the handle. However, such a ring "is substantially but not completely circular and, while substantially coaxial with the handle axis, is sufficiently offset therefrom to cause one side of the ring arc to be flush with the handle sidewall and another side to extend radially outwardly of the sidewall by a distance sufficient to allow snapping the ring out of its closed position by acting on the extending portion".  
It will increase the production complexity for making such a ring arc. And it requires an acting force for engaging the ring on the groove.  
So, both production and operation of Exley's prior art is inferior to this application. Because, this application is operated just by simply quickly resiliently fastening the elastic loop portion in the grip groove.
4. Drawing objection is overcome after canceling the "umbrella" in Claim 1 in this amendment.

5. A handwritten amendment draft is enclosed for checking purpose.  
The insertions in amended Claim 1 are early supported in the originally filed specification (related pages enclosed).
6. Accordingly, this application is now thought to be really placed in condition of allowance. An early Notice to this effect is respectfully expected.

Respectfully submitted;

By: Tzun-Zong Wu

Tzun-Zong Wu

Date: 1/12/2005

Enclosure  
Handwritten: 10/24/288  
Draft  
US 10/24/288

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Speed  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

APPLICANT: Tzun-Zong Wu

GROUP ART UNIT: 3637

APPL. NO. 10/724,288

EXAMINER: James O. Hansen

FILED: 11/27/2003

FOR: Tangle-free Umbrella Grip



Attn: G. A. U. 3637

PLEASE  
SEND NOTICE/ACTION  
BY AIR MAIL

Honorable Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

U.S.A.

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the <sup>final</sup> Office Action mailed on: <sup>11/30/2004</sup> 08/09/2004,

please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please ~~cancel Claims 1-8 and 10-11 without prejudice; and~~ <sup>Further amend Claim 9 as amended and</sup> ~~please amend Claim 9 as follows:~~ <sup>acted on: 09/24/2004</sup>

9. (currently amended) An umbrella grip ~~according to Claim 1,~~

~~wherein said comprising: a grip is coaxially formed with a~~  
~~central shaft of the an umbrella includes; a groove~~  
~~circumferentially recessed in an outer surface of an extension~~  
~~wall protruding from an end plate of the grip; and two string~~  
~~holes approximating with each other and juxtapositionally~~

<sup>about said axis</sup>  
~~Concentrically~~  
~~as cylindrically shaped and~~  
<sup>longitudinal axis at a longitudinal center of the grip and the central shaft</sup>

formed in the groove through the extension wall for inserting two end portions of ~~the~~ an elastic string through the two string holes to be retained against an inside surface of the extension wall; said elastic string made of stretchable elastic materials having two opposite end portions of said string secured to the grip through the two string holes which are formed in the grip and communicated with the groove; and having a loop portion protruding outwardly from the grip for carrying use. <sup>the improvement</sup> ~~with the~~ <sup>which</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>compr</sup> ~~loop portion having a perimeter smaller than a perimeter of the groove, whereby when the use of the string is not desired, the loop portion of the string will be resiliently tightly fastened on the groove of the grip without being easily loosened.~~

~~10. (canceled)~~

~~11. (canceled)~~

Remarks:

(Om: Ued)

1. This amendment has been made <sup>to</sup> further amend the amended Claim 9 as amended (filed on: 9/26/2004) to be a Jepson-style format.
2. After this amendment, Allen's prior art (, 236) ~~has~~ will be avoided because it further requires a "holdoff means" such as a two-part fastener, or snap fastener, or a press fit structure, to be ~~shown~~ in this application.
3. Exley's prior art (, 137) readily has a ring (24) to be snap-locked on a circumferential flange of the <sup>handle</sup> handle. However, such a ring is substantially but not completely circular.

and, while substantially coaxial with the handle ax.  
 is sufficiently offset therefrom to cause  
 one side of the ring arc to be flush  
 with the handle sidewall and another  
 side to extend radially outwardly of  
 the ~~side~~ sidewall by a distance  
 sufficient to allow snapping the ring  
 out of its closed position by acting on  
 the extended portion.

~~If it seems a relatively simple  
 structure apparently. How~~

It ~~will increase the~~ requires production complexity  
 for making such ring arc. And it  
 also ~~definitely~~ requires an act of  
 force for engaging the ring in  
 the groove.

So, both production and operation  
 of Exley's prior art is inferior  
 to this application. Because, it is  
 simply quickly put a ~~spring~~  
~~and~~ <sup>resiliently</sup> ~~elasticity~~ <sup>fasten</sup> the elastic  
 loop portion in the <sup>groove</sup>.

Am  
 early  
 notice  
 to this  
 effect is  
 respectfully  
 expected.

Respectfully  
 submitted:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Drafting objection is overcome by canceling the umbrella in Claim 1.
5. A handwritten amendment draft is enclosed for checking purposes. The ~~insertion~~ <sup>amendment</sup> in amended Claim 1 is ~~early suggested~~ <sup>as the specification</sup>.
6. Accordingly, this application is now thought to

Insertion in amended Claim 1 was

outwardly to symmetrically hold the grip and the umbrella. <sup>early supported in these pages of or. finally</sup>

As shown in Figs. 8-10, another preferred embodiment of the present invention is made as modified from the aforementioned (Figs. <sup>specifications</sup> 1-4).

The grip 1 coaxially formed with a central shaft 3 of the umbrella includes a groove 11 circumferentially recessed in an outer surface of an extension wall 10 (such as cylindrically shaped) protruding from an end plate 100 of the grip 1; and two string holes 12 approximating with each other and juxtapositionally formed in the groove 11 through the extension wall 10 for inserting two end portions 21 of the string 2 through the two string holes 12 to be retained against an inside surface of the extension wall 10.

The elastic string 2 is made of stretchable elastic materials having its two opposite end portions 21 secured to the grip 1 through the two string holes 12 which are formed in the grip 1 and communicated with the groove 11; and having a loop portion 20 protruding outwardly from the grip 1 for carrying or hanging purpose, with the loop portion 20 having a perimeter smaller than a perimeter of the groove 11 so that the loop portion 20 of the string 2 will be resiliently tightly fastened on the groove 11 of the grip 1 without being easily loosened or derailed.

Since there is just a single groove 11 formed in the grip 1, the length of the loop portion 20 of the string 2 is also shorter than that of the embodiment as shown in Fig. 1. So, the loop portion 20 once

pulled outwardly for carrying purpose, the loop portion 20 is so small to be carried by the user's finger (or fingers) F rather than her hand to be suitable for light-weight multiple-fold pocket (or mini) umbrella of which the folded umbrella is so short and the material for making the rib assembly of the umbrella is also very light in weight so that the umbrella grip thus made may be called as "finger-hanging" umbrella grip.

The grip 1 once formed as cylindrical shape defines a longitudinal axis X at a longitudinal center of the grip 1 and the central shaft 3. About the axis X, the groove 11 is concentrically recessed in the outer cylindrical surface of the grip 12. Upon winding of the string 2 on the groove 11, a circular ring will be formed to increase the ornamental effect of the grip and also to increase the frictional force between the grip and the user's hand for firmly holding the umbrella grip.

The grip 1 further includes a finger cavity 13 recessed in the grip 1 and communicated with the groove 11 for an easy removal of the string 2 as originally wound and engaged with the groove 11.

As shown in Figs. 11, 12, the grip 1 is modified to be rectangular shape having two opposite end portions 21 connected with a stopper or retainer 22 to limit the end portions 21 of the string 2 within the grip 1. After pulling the string 2 outwardly as shown in Fig. 12, it may serve as a carrying or hanging strap.

As shown in Figs. 13, 14, the string 2 is modified from Fig. 11